

mode of operation of the agents are distinctive. The restriction requirement at least with respect to Groups XIII, XIV and XV is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

The Group XIII claims are drawn to methods of treating atherosclerosis wherein the agent is a P-selectin-specific antibody, classified in Class 514, subclass 8. The Group XIV claims are drawn to methods of treating atherosclerosis wherein the agent is a PSGL-1-specific antibody. The Group XV claims are drawn to methods of treating atherosclerosis wherein the agent is a 160 kD P-selectin ligand-specific antibody.

Applicants submit that the segregation of these antibodies into different groups is an artificial construction on the part of the Examiner, and that these antibodies should be examined together. The searching of these antibodies can also most effectively be carried out together, thereby obviating the necessity for filing separate patent applications to cover claims directed to each group. This would save considerable time and effort on the part of the USPTO. For instance, applicants note that Groups XIV and XV are both classified by the Examiner in Class 424, subclass 130.1, and therefore, no separate searching of these Groups is required.

Accordingly, the restriction requirement is respectfully traversed, and reconsideration along the lines outlined above is requested. However, in the event the restriction requirement is adhered to in its entirety, applicants respectfully elect, with traverse, the invention of the Group XIII claims, i.e. those claims directed to the treatment of atherosclerosis with P-selectin-specific antibody, for further prosecution on the merits.

Formal drawings have also been requested pursuant to the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.85(a). Pursuant to this requirement, enclosed with this Response are corrected formal drawings. Applicants submit that the substitute drawings are now in full compliance with all USPTO requirements.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the restriction requirement, and prompt and favorable action on this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

by William G. Gosz
William G. Gosz
Reg. No. 27,787
Ropes & Gray
One International Place
Boston, MA
Attorneys for Applicant(s)
Tel. No. (617) 951-7000

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